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Remarks

This Amendment is in response to the Final Office Action dated September 9, 2003. A timely response is due on or before December 9, 2003.

Applicant notes with appreciation that Claims 6-10 have been allowed and that Claims 2 and 11 contain allowable subject matter.

Claim 2 has been re-drafted as an independent claim including the limitations of Claim 1 (as presented in the previous amendment). Claim 2 has been amended eliminating reference to the "bent rod" and substituting therefore a phrase "bent element." The limitation "bent rod" has been reinserted in a new dependent Claim 12. Applicant appreciates he is under a Final Office Action and that his ability to amend the claims is limited. Applicant respectfully notes the above replacement of "bent element" for "bent rod" should not require any additional searching by the Examiner.

With regard to Claim 1, and in the most recent rejection of Claim 1 (see page 5, paragraph 16 of the Office Action) it was noted the language "the movable anchor becomes a self located at a preferred location in the bar by virtue of the angled shape of the bar as the air bag constricts in size as it inflates" is not recited in the rejected Claim, that is Claim 1. Applicant has taken the Examiner's implicit suggestion and added language to Claim 1 which incorporates the above language albeit in the form of a "means plus" claim. This claim should be allowable in light of the specification and view of the prior art, which does not show this self-locating feature.

In view of the aforementioned, it is respectfully urged that the present application be reconsidered, the claims allowed, and the case passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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